

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 13, 2005. Claims 2-17, 20-22 and 26-41 are pending in this application, with claims 6 and 20 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, claims 6, 8-14, 20-22, and 26-32 have been amended, claims 1-5, 18, 19 and 23-25 have been canceled and claims 34-41 have been added. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Amendment.

Independent claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,618,039 to Grant et al. in view of U.S. Publication 2003/0187925 to Inala et al. Independent claim 20 was rejected under Section 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kobayashi in view of U.S. Patent 6,618,039 to Grant et al. Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submit independent claims 6 and 20 are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited art teaches or suggests accession of hyperlinked documents by users having mental and/or physical limitations by use of keys designed and/or shaped in such a way so as to provide an unequivocal mental association with a corresponding hyperlinked document, as recited in independent claims 6 and 20.

As understood by Applicants, Kobayashi relates to a key input device having a transparent tablet and an insertion inlet of the input device. When an IC card is inserted through the insertion inlet, characters or numerals marked on the surface of the IC card are visually recognized through the tablet. The IC card stores therein a program for assigning the keys represented in the tablet.

The IC card further stores an URL address of a home page corresponding to the card. When a suitable key of the tablet is pushed, a code signal corresponding to the pushed key is generated. The stored URL address is transmitted to the Internet so that connection to a home page corresponding to the URL address is performed.

However, Kobayashi is clearly not suitable for users having mental and/or physical limitations. For example, in Kobayashi a key of the tablet to be pushed is a standard key without any unique design or shape. That is, the function of a key is visually recognized through the tablet. A user that has mental limitations or does not understand the meaning of the visually recognizable key function, such as a blind person or one that does not understand the language of the visible key function description, will not be able to reliably retrieve a desired web page.

Grant et al, as understood by Applicants, relates to a pocket-sized user interface for Internet browser terminals and the like. The interface provides a plurality of pre-programmed or user programmable touch-sensitive switches that integrate with frequently used browser features. Although the user interface provides specially designed or shaped keys, these keys facilitate browsing functions and not website accession functions. Additionally, the keys do not provide an unequivocal mental association with a corresponding hyperlinked document, as recited in independent claims 6 and 20.

Inala et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to a software engine for enabling proxy chat-room interaction. A user pre-configures a list of queries for input into an impending chat session, sending the queries along with session-associated parameters in the form of a request for navigation to and proxy interaction in a session on behalf of the user.

In contrast, implementations of the present disclosure allow users having mental and/or

physical limitations to download a desired web page of interest by pressing one of a plurality of keys that is designed and/or shaped in such a way so as to provide an unequivocal mental association with the desired web page. Blind people are also able to download a web page of interest by means of a key that is shaped in such a way so as to provide an unequivocal mental association with the desired web page.

Applicants find no teaching or suggestion in the cited art of system and method associated with a dedicated keyboard device having keys which are designed and/or shaped in such a way so as to provide an unequivocal mental association with a corresponding hyperlinked document, as recited in independent claims 6 and 20. Accordingly, Applicants submit independent claims 6 and 20 are patentable over the cited art.

The dependent claims are also believed to be patentable for at least similar reasons to those of their respective independent claims.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an additional extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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